THE

AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM.

OMNIS FERET OMNIA TELLUS. VIRG.

Vol. I.] *Georgetown, Ca. Oct.* 24, 1810. [No. 9.

Extract from Lord Somerville's Essay on Sheep.

Continued from page 122.

The principle on which Sir Lawrence Palk conducts his sheep husbandry, needs only to be recorded; it will speak for itself. Part of his estate is rich land, improved by water (which heretofore ran to waste,) and lies low in the vale of Exeter: the rest borders upon Haldown. Instead of stocking the whole with the heavy bodied sheep of the country, which either must have been stocked so thin *per* acre as to pay nothing, or have dwindled in size, or have been starved, the estate now carries 500 breeding ewes; on the lower, 200 of the new Leicester blood, and on the upper part, 300 Ryelands, the produce of which have a large portion of the Merino blood.

As the winter advances, and the heavy bodied sheep go into turnips, the Ryelands are brought down to run after and clean up the layer, by which they get well wintered; and as the summer approaches, they return to the high lands, and work in the fold.

If any man can devise a system, which, under such circumstances, will pay more in good produce *per* acre, let him suggest it; his information will be thankfully received. But it will be urged, Why is it that these men should do more than we do? Why do we not draw from our management as much for the public supply? Because you are tied down and fettered by old prejudices, adverse to your interest; and because they, profiting by a more extended education, reason on a greater scale, and act on principles more consistent with nature and

good sense. It is by the neglect of, or by an unremitting attention to, this great secret in rural œconomy; and by the adoption of animals for husbandry labor, which do not consume our food, but on the contrary, add most considerably to it, that the national supply will be either scanty or abundant.

The question having of late been repeatedly asked, what proportion of the Merino blood it would be advisable to bring into the South down breed with advantage? My answer has been—One quarter only, provided the outward resemblance and character of the South-down is intended to be preserved; the Rycland, being a white faced sheep, assimilates with the Merino more readily, and will bear one half, or even more.

With the strictest regard to truth, it may be said, that the unwearied attention of the Bath and West of England society, and the abilities of many of its leading members, (one of whom is in himself an host, I mean Dr. Parry) could alone have dispelled those doubts, which hung over the minds of numberless landed proprietors and manufacturers, deeply interested in the event, but despairing of ultimate success.

Its centrical situation as to the superfine manufactures before alluded to, a consequent connexion between the landed and commercial interests, naturally pointed it out as the centre of such untertakings, and induced me to solicit its aid. Our much lamented President, the late Duke of Bedford, was decidedly of the same opinion, and acted up to it accordingly. His loss, great as it is to the farming part of our community, would have been irreparable, were it not that his successor is bent on promoting objects so notoriously beneficial; an intimate knowledge of him enables me to say, that as far as I am competent to judge, he has ability and knowledge to perfect them.

From the foregoing observations, it will appear, that, in its common application to British husbandry, the Spanish breed of sheep has the power, perhaps exclusively, to maintain its quality of wool; for, strong keep will length-

en, but will not open or deteriorate the pile; that it has, without question, ameliorated the quality, and, what is of more importance, has added considerably to the quantity of our native short wool fleeces, whilst, at the same time, the proof or aptitude to fatten has increased rather than diminished. Supposing, then, that no great improvement in the shape should be obtained, it becomes to any man simply a question between his eye and his pocket; if he must have beauty, and that, too, of an unwieldy description, let him have it; but if he prefers profit, which is supposed to be the more substantial acquisition of the two, he knows where it may be found. A trite but wise adage says, "Handsome is, that handsome does."

He was a bold man, who first ventured to introduce among us an Alderney cow; and he must have had an eye stedfastly fixed on this adage for consolation; yet the event has justified his hardiness. Just so with these Merino sheep; but, as other breeds have been improved, so by careful selection may these; for the foundation, good wool, and good and early proof, are not deficient.

This race of sheep has retained all its quality of pile in Saxony, as well as in Sweden and Denmark, where it has been spreading for 30 years past; in proof of which, 200 bags of Merino wool, scoured and sorted, were imported some years ago into this country, by one person, and the whole of it sold at the primest price of Spanish wool: when manufactured into cloth, it worked up as well, as it looked in sample. The exertions of M. Lasteyrie, in his late work (Histoire de l'introduction des Moutons a laine fine d' Espagne, dans les divers Etats de l' Europe, et au Cap de Bonne Esperance) must not pass unnoticed; his knowledge has obviously been obtained in the sheep-fold, and the fluency and correctness with which he details the various diseases of sheep, and their remedies, declare him to possess a shepherd's knowledge of a flock.

In his commencement of the subject, he expresses himself thus: "The different governments of Europe had

long acknowledged the advantages that would be derived to agriculture and commerce, from the introduction of fine wools into their respective states; but their views meeting opposition in the ignorance and prejudice of the times, a considerable number of years elapsed, before they set about realizing an idea, which, at first, seemed chimerical; at length there appeared men equally commendable for their patriotism and for their knowledge, who have laboured with zeal and perseverance, to enlighten their fellow-citizens, by producing facts to prove, that nature, far from opposing itself to the preservation of fine-wool sheep in certain climates, seemed, on the contrary, to lend itself complacently to the exertions of industry. I believe I have demonstrated in my treatise on Sheep, that the fine wools of Spain depend neither on the voyage, nor on the soil, nor the climate, nor the pasture; but that it depends on other causes, and that it is possible to have in France and elsewhere, wool of the same quality as that of Spain. My travels in the North of Europe have offered facts and observations, which have afresh demonstrated this truth. I have found in the far greater number of the flocks I have examined, wool, which, judging from the eye, or the touch, equals in beauty and fineness that of Segovia and Leon; so much so that, in my opinion, no doubt can remain, that we can obtain superfine fleeces in every part of Europe, where pastures are to be found, and where we can depend on winter food, on which sheep can be supported. These wools make cloths as fine, as silky, and supple, as those manufactured of Spanish wool, as attempts made in France, and other countries prove. But were it true, that the food, climate, and other local circumstances, had a certain influence on the intrinsic qualities of wool, such as the elasticity, the strength, the softness, &c. &c. it would not be the less proved, that, at all events, cloths, fine and beautiful enough to satisfy persons the most difficult on this point, can be obtained; and that a nation can easily do without the fine wools of Spain, and feed its finest manufactures with those drawn from its own pro-

per soil. Nevertheless, as these truths are still held in doubt by some persons, and lest these doubts should have a considerable influence on our agriculture and our commerce, I thought it my duty to publish these facts, which must give a new degree of force and certainty. I here present to view the actual state of Merino flocks, naturalized in Europe."

He says, that a Merino flock came into Sweden in 1723; that from the year 1740 to the year 1780, a bounty of 75 *per Cent.* was allowed to those who sold fine wool; in 1780, these bounties were reduced to 15, and in 1786, to 12 *per Cent.*; and in 1792, being no longer deemed necessary to encourage this breed, they ceased. In 1764, Sweden possessed 65,369 Merino Sheep, of the pure blood, and 23,384 of the mixed blood: since that period they have constantly increased in number, in spite of the difficulty occasioned by the length of winter and severity of the climate. That the Merino sheep preserve, in Sweden, their pristine form; that the fleeces have lost nothing of their equality of length, their elasticity and fine quality of pile; that their weight continues as great as in Spain; that he has seen Merino rams whose fleeces weighed thirteen pounds each; and that, when seasoned to the climate, and properly fed, he has seen them larger and finer sheep than in Spain. Upper Saxony, he says, is the country next to Sweden, where the introduction of the Merino breed is of the longest date; and it is in Saxony where this naturalization has met with the most marked success, and produced effects the most beneficial; the native breeds have, by a mixture of Merino blood, profited in an equal degree. The first importation was in 1765; the next in 1778. Mr. Lasteyrie says, he has seen many different flocks, and has found the pure Merino, as well as some mixed breeds, producing wool of the first quality; indeed, the sheep walks of Saxony are, at this moment, more productive than any other species of husbandry; and that the wool sells at three times the price of the wools of the country. Saxony rears about

1,600,000 sheep; of which, 90,000 are Merinos, and the mixed breed.

They were introduced into Prussia by Frederick the Second, in the year 1786. Some of these, distributed over the country, from mismanagement and gross neglect, have degenerated and died; others he has seen, which preserve their pristine qualities.

In Denmark, and in various parts of Germany, Mr. Lasteyrie has seen this race of sheep always prospering, if well treated; and in this and every other country, degenerating from want of food and neglect; always, however, doing as well as the native breeds in the same keep, and in some cases better; that the more regular and ample the supply of food is, whether of grass or green vegetables, the heavier and finer will be the fleece, the larger in size, and more perfect in shape, will the sheep be. He strongly recommends housing; but adds, that foul, close sheep-cots are injurious; that a free circulation of air is always found beneficial; and that this breed of sheep suffers more from heat than from cold—(this doctrine has been repeatedly confirmed by our practice at home); that they will get fat as quick as any indigenous breed, in any country, and have done so wherever a comparison has been made.

The details of the treatment of the Merino flock at Rambouillet, a national farm near Paris, merit notice; they appear to result from much patient observation. An experiment was there made, which denotes the peculiar character of this breed, and its tendency to carry wool. A ewe, eighteen months old, was left unshorn; the next season, her fleece, when shorn, weighed fourteen pounds ten ounces; and its pile, which was double the usual length, lost nothing as to weight, because few ewes would have given more wool, if clipped at the usual periods. Another ewe was shorn at thirty months old, and gave a still greater quantity of wool, although she, at that season, suckled a lamb; her fleece weighed twenty-one pounds, and the pile was eight inches long. In the ninth

year (1800); eight ewes, whose fleeces were of two years growth, gave from sixteen to twenty pounds each. It appeared from these different experiments, that Merino wool, of two years growth, will double its length, and will preserve all its fine quality; it was not observed that the sheep subjected to this experiment, suffered particularly from heat, or that their health was in any degree injured.

It is possible that this property of the Merino fleece, to grow beyond the period usual in our breed of sheep, may be productive of some new manufacture; where great length and fine quality of pile is requisite; but the hazard of the blow-fly, and the chance of losing, in hedges and brakes, any part of a fleece, after it is once fit for a manufacture, will not allow of this practice becoming general, admitting even that the sheep suffer nothing in their proof during the summer months from the weight of the fleece, which, in a large scale of practice, is improbable, and that the wool should be found to pay as well for growing to this length, as it would when shorn in common course; but we have taken the liberty of noticing a circumstance so novel to us, because our English breeds are all supposed to cast their fleeces at a certain season of the year, if not shorn, with exception to lambs, which hold their fleeces—(this is quoted by many as an argument against shearing lambs); because the fact has also been doubted by some of the best informed and liberal amongst us, not supposing the reporters of Rambouillet meant to deceive, but that some mistake must have been made. A sample of this wool is now in England; I have carefully examined it, and can bear testimony to the fact.

The Duke of Bedford, who left Paris at the moment when hostilities were about to commence, consequently the latest, as well as one of the most correct judges of the matter, declares that he carefully examined the Merino Sheep at Rambouillet, and that he found them of a size he was unprepared to expect, and that still the woo preserved its original purity. Samples of the wool taken

when the sheep first arrived, and at various periods since that time, were examined by him, with all possible accuracy, and evidently declared a progressive improvement. He thought the wether sheep, of the pure blood, might be fed to twenty-five pounds *per* quarter; a size beyond which, it will not be advisable to push them, unless vanity is to be gratified at the expence of profit.

[*To be continued.*]

WOOLEN MANUFACTURES.

The legislature of the state of N. York, at their last session, passed a new law to encourage the manufacture of woolen cloth by giving premiums, and repealed the old law on this subject. The following are the premiums provided for in the existing law, viz: For the best specimen or specimens of woollen cloth of uniform texture and quality as nearly as may be, not less than 200 yards, wholly manufactured in this state and of wool produced in this state, of a breadth not less than three quarters of a yard, a premium of 200 dollars.

For the 2d best specimen of like cloth, 150 yads, 50 dollars.

For the third best specimen, 100 yards, 30 dollars.

These premiums to be adjudged by the society for the promotion of useful arts, and the specimens to be exhibited to the society at Albany, before the third Tuesday of February.

FAMILY MANUFACTURES.

"That the person who shall, in his family or under his immediate direction, at his expence, manufacture, or cause to be manufactured, within any of the counties of this state, of wool shorn from sheep owned in said county, the best specimen of woolen cloth of uniform texture and quality, of not less than thirty yards, the breadth not less than three fourths of a yard, shall be entitled to a premium of 40 dollars."

For the 2d best specimen of like cloth in each county of 25 yards, 35 dollars.

For the third best specimen, of 20 yards, 40 dollars.

The premiums to be adjudged by the judges of the court of common pleas in the different counties, on the 3d Tuesday in January; and proof is to be exhibited that the specimens were carded, spun and wove in the county. Pieces of at least a quarter of a yard from the prize specimens of each county, are to be forwarded to the society for the promotion of useful arts. Persons may be candidates for the state premiums for family manufactures, without being so for the county premiums; provided they exhibit to the society whole pieces of cloth. The society will determine on the first, second, and third best specimens thus exhibited, and adjudge to the owners the following premiums, each in a piece of plate with suitable inscriptions, viz.

For the best specimen, ninety dollars.

For the second best specimen, eighty dollars.

And for the third best specimen, seventy dollars.

No person to be entitled in any one year to more than one county premium. The act is limited to one year.

A DESCRIPTION *of* SMITH *&* DRINKER'S *Manufactory of* COTTON TWIST, *on Four Mile Run, in the District of Columbia, begun the* 1st *of April,* 1810.

THE building is of brick 30 by 33 feet. On the ground floor are worked one cotton breaker and two finishers single geared with eight flat cards covering one fourth of their principal cylinders. They are turned by water, have a leathern band passing over a large drum or barrel extending lengthwise of the house twelve feet; this drum gives motion to the whole machinery of the factory. On the same floor are four drawing heads, and four roving heads, with cans, barting frames, &c. capable of carding, drawing, and roving 150 to 180 pounds of cotton per week. This department requires one man and three boys to attend it.

On the second floor are two frames of spindles; one has 96, the other 12. They may be turned, with safety

to the work, three thousand revolutions per minute, and will spin two and a third hanks per day of thread, No. 10 to 30—A reel to wind off 20 spoils at once with roving winders: and a machine for carding wool, which will card and roll 100 weight of wool per day.

This department requires one woman and three small girls to attend it. The wool-carder requires the constant attention of one man, when it is carding.

The spindles used in this factory differ in several important points from those used in England, or in any other factory in America. They are capable of doing more and better work, and require less attention than the Arkwright spindle generally used. They are well adapted, and make excellent thread when run by hand, 6 or 8 spindles in a frame.

In addition to the above machinery, the proprietors are now constructing (as fast as their funds will permit) two frames of 96 spindles each, and a mule with 144 spindles, a breaker and two finishers, with a set of drawing and roving heads. They also contemplate a small establishment for colouring and bleaching of cotton twist. GEORGE DRINKER.

Centre Mills, August 28, 1810.

USEFUL IMPROVEMENT.

Benjamin Parry, of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, has invented a new Corn Kiln, or machine for drying corn or other grain—The machinery over the oven is composed of three sheet iron sieves, perforated, which receive a vibratory motion gradually ceasing by small jars; in which sieves the corn moves from the first to the second, &c. until it is delivered at the same end of the kiln it was received. By this method there may be from one to five hundred bushels (according to the wishes of the constructor) of corn dried in twenty four hours, with but little labor and much less fuel than in the ordinary way—The inventor has obtained a patent, which secures to him the exclusive right of using the above machine and of vending it to others. *Freeman's Journal.*

To Mr. S. Bledget we are indebted for an ANTICIPATION of the following valuable Table, compiled for the next Edition of his Statistical Manual.

Domestic Exports U. S. comparing the Agricultural and other productions of 1791 with the last Seven years, from official documents, valued in dollars U. S.

PRODUCE OF THE SEA.

Year.	Dried Salt Fish.	Pickled Fish.	Whale oil and bone.	Spermaceti Candles.	Total of the sea.
1791	1,200,000	200,000	196,480	60,000	$ 1,656,480
1803	1,620,000	560,000	280,000	175,000	2,635,000
1804	2,413,256	639,419	311,028	69,720	3,433,423
1805	2,058,000	348,000	314,000	163,000	2,884,000
1806	2,150,000	366,000	418,000	182,000	3,116,000
1807	1,896,000	302,000	476,000	130,000	2,804,000
1808	623,000	98,000	88,000	23,000	832,000
1809	1,123,000	282,000	169,000	136,000	1,710,000

PRODUCE OF THE FOREST.

Year.	Ginseng and Peltry.	Naval Stores.	Pearl & Pot Ashes.	Lumber, Masts, &c.	Total of the Forest.
1791	290,208	230,000	350,000	1,210,000	2,080,208
1803	630,000	460,000	735,000	2,800,000	4,850,000
1804	1,047,305	327,931	642,000	2,548,000	4,654,466
1805	1,115,000	702,000	776,000	2,602,000	5,261,000
1806	980,000	409,000	935,000	2,537,000	4,861,000
1807	995,000	335,000	1,448,000	2,637,000	5,476,000
1808	161,000	102,000	408,000	723,000	1,399,000
1809	468,000	737,000	1,506,000	1,843,000	4,583,000

PRODUCE OF AGRICULTURE.

Year.	Animal Food, &c.	Vegetable Food.	Tobacco.	Cotton.	Total of Agriculture.
1791	1,200,000	4,640,000	4,000,000	30,000	9,870,000
1803	4,135,000	14,080,000	6,230,000	7,920,000	32,995,000
1804	4,284,568	12,080 684	6,000,000	7,404,117	33,385,262
1805	3,385,000	11,752,000	6,341,000	9,445,000	31,562,000
1806	3,274,000	11,050,000	6,572,000	8,332,000	32,375,000
1807	3,086,000	14,432,000	5,476,000	14,232,100	37,832,000
1808	968,000	2,550,000	833,000	2,221,000	6,746,000
1809	1,811,000	8,751,000	3,774,000	8,515,000	23,234,000

PRODUCE OF MANUFACTURES.

Year.	Domestic Manufactures.	Of Foreign Materials.	Total Manufactures.	Total of Domestic Exports.
1791	600,000	400,000	1,093,320	14,600,000
1803	790,000	565,000	1,356,000	42,235,000
1804	1,134,864	454,916	2,189,000	41,095,089
1805	1,579,000	721,000	2,300,000	42,387,000
1806	1,889,000	818,000	2,707,000	46,504,000
1807	1,652,000	468,000	2,120,000	48,700,000
1808	309,000	35,000	344,000	9,433,000
1809	1,266,000	240,000	1,506,000	31,403,702

For the Agricultural Museum.

MERINO RIDDLE.

As it may lead to calculations and enquiries useful to those preparing to propagate Merino Sheep, a solution is asked of the following:—admitting that the 5th dip of full blood on common stock, or 31|32's of full blood, is equivalent to full blood—

How comes it, that the little tenant, with one single Ewe, may, by breeding in and in, have a full-blood Lamb in the fifth year:—and yet the great Landlord, from one hundred Ewes, will not have, by the same process, and on the most favorable calculation, more than three full-blood Lambs, within the same period of time?

SHEPHERD.

SUMMARY OF FACTS,

Relative to American Sheep, by a Farmer of Pennsylvania.—Transmitted to the English Board of Agriculture, by GENERAL WASHINGTON, *in* 1794.

COMMUNICATED BY MR. CUSTIS.

The Sheep of America are not natives; there are no wild Sheep; they are of course all domesticated. No animal requires more care and attention than this; it is naturally timid, and helpless, and seems to have less of the instinct, which in brutes is a substitute for reason, than any other beast. It cannot defend itself against its numerous foes; it is a prey to dogs at home; and if it should stray into the forests, the beasts of prey would soon destroy it. Some are, comparatively with other Sheep, more hardy, but compared with other beasts, they are all delicate.

The stock of our Sheep is European.—The Swedes and Dutch had a few previous to English settlers, but the importations of any consequence were from England.—The Germans also brought Sheep, and I have known

some from Spain, and I think a pair of *Persian Sheep*, (*a*) but the great proportion is from the English stock. There are no great varieties, as the breeds have been mixed, but the American Sheep resemble most in shape, and figure, those of England; in size, they are generally smaller.

(*b*) The average weight of Sheep in Pennsylvania, when fat, does not exceed 48 lbs. nett. I have known a carcass 112 lbs. and have heard of one 180 lbs. The weight of the quarters, may be judged from that of the whole. It lays the fat most, on the hind quarters, which are therefore the heaviest. The number of ribs are generally twelve, on a side, some have twelve and a false one. The common run of good sheep, in the Philadelphia Market weigh 60 lbs. but 80 lbs the carcass is not uncommon. The price of mutton in that market, the year through, about d.4 1-2 Currency, and the price of Sheep in flocks, when poor, is about 7s. 6d. or 4s. 6d. sterling.

The Mutton (*c*) of this country differs as it does in others; that fed on short bites and hilly lands, is the best. The smaller size if well fatted, is also the sweetest and best flavoured. It is generally accounted better than the large English or German mutton; but the small mutton of Wales and other hilly countries is as good, but not superior to ours in the same kind of country. The best flavoured mutton, is not common in the market of the Capital, the largest and fattest is to be found there, but the choicest and finest meat is only to be had at a distance, in the neighbourhood of hilly or relatively barren countries. The (*d*) heaviest fleece I ever knew weighed 13 lbs. nett. (*e*) The price of wool upon an average is an English shilling per lb. three lbs. to a fleece, is an ample average allowance.

I have seen home-spun cloth, of the fabric of an English superfine. It is said that we (*f*) have wool, as fine as that of England at least; but it rather appears best calculated, for the coarser kinds of cloth. These are manufactured here to great perfection, and will outlast any imported.

(*g*) Few Sheep keep their prime longer than seven years. It depends much on their treatment; but at this age, they generally begin to decline.—None will bear to be full fatted, and suffered to go lean at any age; they always perish with disease, when this happens. The average weight of the tallow, is about one eighth of the Sheep, if the Sheep is well fatted.

The time of yeaning, is generally from the middle of February, to the end of May,—the most are lambed in March and April,—some are dropped at Christmas.—They are as well covered with wool, as is common with lambs of other countries.—It is rare, for a (*h*) ewe to lamb twice a year, although I have known it to happen. A prodigious number of Sheep, could be raised by every farmer keeping a few, say a score at most, to a common sized farm, and these could be well attended to, without injury to the common affairs of the farm.

(*i*) Premiums given by Government or from private subscription funds, under the direction of the Agricultural Societies, which are spreading themselves through every part of the United States, would assist in the attainment of what is most wanted, a (*k*) perfect breed of Domestic Animals, Horses, Cattle and Sheep, included. Emulation, would be set at work, and the laudable pride of excelling each other, would stimulate intelligent and attentive farmers to this kind of exertion.—A breed thus obtained, will exceed any importation; the animal will be assimilated to our climate, in which there are some peculiarities, not favourable to all imported breeds, or their progeny unmixed—(*l*) As to the food, it is of the same nature in most countries. Sheep are close biters, and great consumers of pasture. The shorter and drier the herbage in summer, the better; in winter, they require, in addition to Hay, Indian Corn, Tops and Blades, and other dry Fodder, and some succulent food, but our snows forbid the turnip fodder extensively.—I had one winter a great quantity of the root of Scarcity, and my Sheep were never more thriving. When snows lie long, the branches of the pine, have a surprising effect in pre-

venting disorders. Sheep should not be kept in close sheds, or hovels, except when the lambs are young, and the weather then cold, and wet; cold never injures grown Sheep, or young Lambs; wet long continued, kills them. A change is necessary, both of pasture and local situation. They never thrive if kept more than six years, upon the same farm. Those from hilly countries, will fatten fast, upon low lands, but must be immediately sold to the butchers. Sheep, Deer and Goats, can feed with safety, on many things fatal to other animals; but both the latter have more sagacity in the selection than the former. The most common diseases are the scower, and the rot. The (*m*) runing at the nose, I take to be a companion, or consequence of the rot, which (*n*) in its first stages, appears to be a species of catarrh. Wet weather long protracted, too luxuriant herbage, wet or sour pastures, or too much water, will produce the scower, which is a forerunner of other diseases. The putrid air of confined stables, or folds, where too many are kept together, is one cause of the rot. I do not believe that when the taint is once fixed, the animal is ever perfectly cured.—Removal to salt meadows, has checked this disorder, in its first stage, tarring the troughs, in which they drink, and stinting the quantity of water are also beneficial.—The free use of pitch pine branches and buds, is also an efficacious preventive and remedy. Sulphur is beneficial in the first stages of the rot. A decoction of Hellebore, or tobacco and tar ointment, are serviceable in the first attacks of the scab, a disorder common to Sheep, in all countries, and which in its commencement, is a cutaneous disease.

There is an infinite variety in the countenances of Sheep. Examine the largest flock, and you will find no two faces alike. The changes appearing in the countenances and eyes indicate disease, or recovery; but I know not what are the symptomatic appearances peculiar to each. (*o*).

When fleeces begin to fall off in spring, owing to relaxation, from too much warmth, or weakness, giving

them Indian corn will set the fleece, by strengthening the Sheep.

(*p*) The fleeces are clipped but once a year. All our fleeces are taken off in May or June. Sometimes we shear the early lambs in July or the beginning of August; but it is not commonly practised.

Miscellaneous Observations. (*q.*) The state of our population and habits, now precludes us from going extensively into the Sheep Husbandry. If it ever should become necessary, there are immense tracts which might be devoted to it—they are now called barrens. These, when burned, throw up a vegetation of white clover, and abound with aromatic herbs and plants, favourable and nutritious to Sheep. I do not find our Sheep more subject to diseases than those of other countries. But we shall be embarrassed in our means of keeping large flocks through the winter, and in long winters their disorders will be more contagious and fatal. The pelts are now manufactured into parchment, and leather for various uses—The latter is often died and substituted for Morocco, but it is inferior to it. The parchment of this country equals that imported, and can be increased in quantity, so as nearly if not entirely to supersede the necessity of importation.

The wolves in our mountains are formidable to Sheep. But these will decrease, although they may not be extirpated, by the progress of the settlements. I have been told, that the wolf avoids the goat, either on account of its smell or appearance—It is said that keeping a few goats, especially he goats, with the Sheep, has been on this account practised with success, in some of our frontier settlements.

Notes and Remarks in our next.

PRINTED FOR AND PUBLISHED BY DAVID WILEY.

Price $ 2.50 for twenty four Numbers,
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